

Message Text

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70

ORIGIN EB-07

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 NEA-10 ISO-00 AGR-10 CEA-01 CIAE-00

COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-01 H-02 INR-07 INT-05 L-02 LAB-04

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 RSC-01 AID-05 CIEP-02 SS-15

STR-04 TAR-01 TRSE-00 USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-02 OMB-01

SWF-01 FEA-01 /116 R

DRAFTED BY EB/ICD/TRP:PPPILKAUSKAS:DE

APPROVED BY EB/ICD/TRP:TJO'DONNELL

USDA/ASCS:ABCALCAGNINI

ARA/PPN:HLSTEIN

NEA/AFN:WSWEISLOGEL

EB/OT/GCP:MGOLDMAN

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R 021829Z DEC 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

INFO AMEMBASSY PANAMA

UNCLAS STATE 264013

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, EAGR

SUBJECT: ALGERIAN PANAMANIAN TRADE; SUGAR AND BANANAS

REF: (A) ALGIERS 2538; (B) PANAMA 6355 (NOTAL);

(C) PANAMA PN4015 (NOTAL)

1. IN 1972, PANAMA EXPORTED 604,000 METRIC TONS (MT) OF BANANAS, AND 540,000 MT IN 1973. A 10,000 MT QUANTITY TO ALGERIA WOULD THEREFORE BE A SMALL FRACTION OF TOTAL PANAMANIAN BANANA EXPORTS. THE BLS IMPORTER SELLING PRICE FOR BANANAS AT U.S. PORTS WAS DOLLARS 3.50 PER 40/LB. BOX IN OCTOBER, BUT HAS VARIED BETWEEN DOLLARS 2.60 (MARCH) AND DOLLARS 4.06 (SEPTEMBER) DURING 1974.

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2. TOTAL ALGERIAN SUGAR IMPORTS IN 1973 AS REPORTED TO THE INTERNATIONAL SUGAR ORGANIZATION (ISO), WERE 261,518MT. PANAMANIAN EXPORTS IN 1973 WERE 45,533 MT. PANAMANIAN EXPORTS TO THE U.S. IN 1974 ARE ESTIMATED AT 59,000 SHORT TONS (ST), AND TOTAL EXPORTS ARE EXPECTED TO BE 76,000 ST. PANAMA IS EXPANDING ITS SUGAR INDUSTRY WITH ANTICIPATED CONTRACTING FOR THE PACORA MILL, AND PLANNING FOR THREE MORE MILLS. 1974/75 CROP YEAR PRODUCTION IS EXPECTED TO INCREASE TO 140,000 ST, UP FROM 115,000 ST IN 1973/74. EXPORTS ARE EXPECTED TO RISE TO 85,000 ST IN 1974/75. FIGURES INDICATE THAT IT IS UNLIKELY THAT PANAMA COULD BEGIN SUPPLYING ALGERIA WITH ONE HALF ITS SUGAR IMPORTS IN

THE NEAR FUTURE, EVEN IF ALL SHIPMENTS WERE DIVERTED FROM PANAMA'S TRADITIONAL MARKET IN THE U.S., A DOUBTFUL DEVELOPMENT. KISSINGER

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